

4th Annual Science Fair with Invention Convention



Five Steps to a Successful Science Project

- 1. Choose a problem, question or system:** Find a problem that you or someone you know has experienced; a question you've always wondered about, or a system that interests you.
- 2. Research it:** Find out what others know. Use primary sources such as your own experiences or local experts. Use secondary sources, such as books, articles from the web or magazines.
- 3. Plan your project:** Before presenting the project for approval, ask yourself these questions:
 - Is it safe to do?
 - Do I want to make an invention, model or experiment?
 - Do I have permission to do it?
 - What materials do I need and can I get them?
 - Do I have enough time to build and test my idea?
 - If it involves living things, will they be safe?
- 4. Get the project approved:** The PTA needs to approve the project before you start.
- 5. Complete your project:** This takes the most time, how much time you need will depend on the project. You need to leave yourself time to research, experiment and create a display board and/or build a model. Some things to do consider while completing your project:
 - The materials for your experiment/model/invention should be things that you can access easily, and are not dangerous.
 - Come up with a way to measure the change your project will make (data).
 - Collect and make sense of this data – This will help you to show that your prediction did or did not work, and/or suggest that the answer to your question is or is not valid. Look for patterns in the data. Use graphs, tables or graphic organizers to organize and display the data.

Timeline for Science Fair Project

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Date</u>
Register for the Science Fair	On or before November 21, 2014
Work on your project at home or during after-school guidance	December 8, 2014 - February 12, 2015 (<i>except</i> holiday break and MLK day)
School Science Fairs	February – March 2015
District-Wide Science Fair at Illing Middle School	March 21, 2015
Connecticut Invention Convention at UConn Storrs	May 2, 2015